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Forestry Club

by Eric Holzmüller

The Forestry Club has had another successful year, and once again stands as a shining example of what all clubs on campus

should strive to be like. Officers for this year were President- Eric Holzmüller, Vice-President- Jason Clapper, Treasurer- Wesley Adkins, and Secretary- Brian Buenger. Dr. Joe Colletti advised the club, and most of our success can be credited to him.

Croquet, horseshoes, brats, and hamburgers got the year started off

with a bang at the annual freshman introduction picnic. Brian Buenger dazzled everyone with his croquet style and play to come away with an impressive victory in the croquet tournament. The competition was so intense that Mike Anderson went out and bought his own croquet set to practice for next year's tournament. Meanwhile, Dan was putting on another show under the shelter by polishing off five brats and three sides of Hy-Vee potato salad without any shame.

The club also took a trip down the Des Moines River from Boone to Ledges State Park. Although the morning weather looked promising, thunderstorms slowed down our progress along the big, muddy, meandering waterway. We made it through though, with Will being the only person managing to tip himself over while trying to get out of the boat. This April, another trip is being planned with more people, canoes, and good times.

Christmas tree sales are the backbone of

the Forestry Club. This is where most of our funding comes from, and it enables us to participate in so many activities, at such a little expense to our

members. We owe a great deal of thanks to Dr. Wray who donated forty trees from his research plot. The rest of the pine trees came from our own plantation, while the balsam firs were imported from Wisconsin. Sales started off a little slow because of the warm winter weather. It's a bit hard to get people excited for Christmas when you are selling trees in short-sleeve shirts.

Sales did pick up the second weekend though, as the temperatures dipped and snow flurries started to fall. Josh Sterling ended up being the number one sales holder, helping a multitude of people with his cheery grin. Next year we hope to acquire a wreath making machine to broaden our product line to include wreaths.

Forestry Club was also involved in charitable activities in the community of Ames. Laura Revell signed up a record number of participants to run in the Relay for Life, which was sponsored by the American Cancer Society. The club also sponsored a mini-golf hole for the Student Council Association in their mini-golf tournament, giving away a free Christmas tree as the top prize. Some of the seedlings that have been planted by the club have been given away to local camps and schools for them to plant in their area.

Dave Carter and Amber Mayo did a wonderful job on the Game Banquet this year. Every-



1999 Forestry Club Officers

**L-R: Secretary-Brian Buenger,
President-Eric Holzmüller, Treasurer- Wes Adkins,
V.P.-Jason Clapper**

one enjoyed a feast of lion, duck, elk, and other wild game. The club would like to give a big thanks to all who donated meat for the banquet. Marty Sterkel, Chief of Partnerships for the National Park Service, was the guest speaker. He gave a fantastic presentation about tourism in national parks. Awards and scholarships were given out afterwards to students.

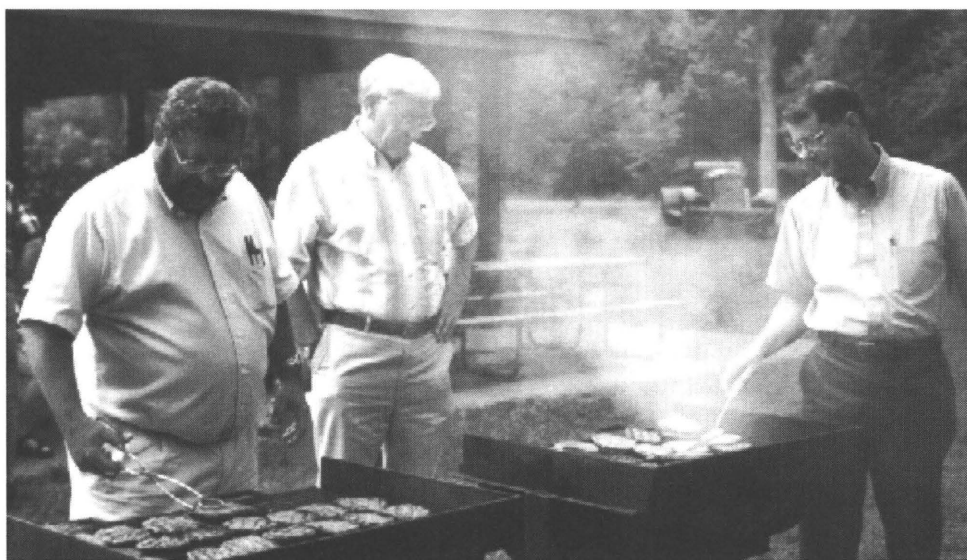
All in all it's been a great year. I would like to say thank you to all of the club's members and everyone who helped make this such a smooth year for the club, none of these projects could have happened without your support. ■



Karen Johlas and Dr. Colletti diggin' in the dirt.



Marty Sterkel speaking to the Game banquet audience.



Manwiller: "Good job boys, now can you identify that cut of beef?"

L-R: Rick Hall, Floyd Manwiller, and Mike Kelly